



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of Community Planning and Economic Development

Date March 21, 2006

To Council Member Lisa Goodman, Community Development Committee
Council Member Paul Ostrow, Ways and Means Budget Committee

Subject Accept and appropriate a Saint Anthony Falls Heritage Board (SAFHB) funding allocation for an archaeological survey on Parcel D West, The Nine and The Portland site, located at the corner of Portland Avenue and 2nd Street South.

Recommendation

Authorize:

1. The execution of a funding agreement between the City of Minneapolis and the St. Anthony Falls Heritage Board accepting a planning fund allocation in the amount of \$25,000.00 to allow for an archaeological survey on Parcel D West, The Nine and The Portland site, located at the corner of Portland Avenue and 2nd Street South.
2. Amending the 2006 General Appropriation Resolution by increasing the CPED agency Fund SMN-890-8933, State Grants & Loan Programs by \$25,000.00.

Previous Directives

- July 7, 2005, City Council approved an Amended and Restated Redevelopment Contract for Parcel D West to allow development of the property.
- January 17, 2003, City Council accepted and appropriated a TBRA grant from Metropolitan Council in the amount of \$460,000.00 for soil remediation.
- July 7, 2001, City Council approved a land sale of the Washburn Crosby Mill and Parcel D West to the Minnesota Historical Society and Brighton Development Corporation.
- June 29, 1992, The MCDA acquired Parcel D as a part of the Milwaukee Depot acquisition.

Prepared or Submitted by Carrie Flack, Sr. Project Coordinator, 673-5010

Approved by Mike Christenson, Director of Economic Development, 673-5122

Approved by Chuck Lutz, Deputy CPED Director, 673-5196

Handwritten signatures of Mike Christenson and Chuck Lutz are present over their respective names and the approval line.

Presenter in Committee Carrie Flack, Sr. Project Coordinator

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

- ☐ No financial impact (If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)
- ☒ Action requires an appropriation increase to the ☒ Capital Budget or ☐ Operating Budget.
- ☒ Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase
- ☐ Action requires use of contingency or reserves
- ☒ Business Plan: ☒ Action is within the plan. ☐ Action requires a change to plan.
- ☐ Other financial impact (Explain):
- ☐ Request provided to department's finance contact when provided to the Committee Coordinator.

Community Impact (use any categories that apply)

Neighborhood Notification – Not applicable

City Goals – Preserve, enhance and create a sustainable natural and historic environment citywide.

Comprehensive Plan – 1.7 Minneapolis will recognize and celebrate its history. 9.2 Minneapolis will continue to preserve the natural ecology and the historical features that define its unique identity in the region. 9.4 Minneapolis will promote preservation as a tool for economic development and community revitalization. 9.14 Minneapolis will increase citizen awareness of preservation and the important role it plays in fostering community revitalization and civic pride.

Zoning Code – Not applicable

Other – Not applicable

Background/Supporting Information Attached

The St. Anthony Falls Heritage Board (SAFHB) is a joint powers board created by the State of Minnesota in 1988 and chaired by the Director of the Minnesota Historical Society. The Board includes the Minneapolis Mayor and two Council Members, as well as representatives of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, Hennepin County, State of Minnesota and other entities. The SAFHB's mission is to plan for, encourage and coordinate interpretation of the historical significance of the St. Anthony Falls Heritage Zone, located along the Minneapolis central riverfront near downtown. One of the ways it achieves this mission is via allocations of planning funds to member agencies to complete projects that are within the SAFHB's work plan.

Historically, two blocks known as Parcel D (located between 2nd Street South and Washington Avenue South and between Chicago Avenue South and Portland Avenue South,) consisted of railway and buildings or structures related to the rail industry.

Parcel D West consists of several development projects known as Park Avenue West Lofts, Washington Live/Work, and The Nine and The Portland. The Nine and The Portland will be located at the corner of Portland Avenue South and 2nd Street South. The Nine will consist of a 4.5 story building with 9 New York style condos and 27 below grade parking spaces. The Portland will consist of a 4.5 story building with 28 condo units and 57 below grade

parking spaces along with 3,500 sq. ft. of retail/commercial space. Both projects are estimated to begin construction in summer 2006.

Historical records have indicated that the subject site included the location of a historical car shop associated with prior railroad activities. The archaeological survey is not required as part of the development but would be a voluntary act in order to properly preserve and/or document any items of historical significance. The survey will occur prior to construction during remediation and may include digging, soil analysis, found object analysis, research, and photo documentation. The survey will ensure that if any archaeological artifacts exist that they are not compromised during construction and will add to the valuable information that is being compiled regarding the story of the railroads in the Mill District.

At its meeting on February 28, 2006, the SAFHB allocated planning funds to the City in the amount of \$25,000 to perform the archaeological survey on Parcel D West. Funds were also awarded in 2005 for similar work on the St. Anthony Mills Apartments (SAMA) site where a railroad roundhouse was located and found.

In addition to documenting any items of historical significance that might be found, staff and the consultant will explore opportunities for possible interpretation as part of the project.